

## **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A double-cone device of continuous geometry for creating a pressure difference in a fluid flowing through the device, the device comprising:

- a. a first tapering section of essentially hollow frustoconical shape; and
- b. a second diverging section of essentially hollow frustoconical shape,

wherein the section of minimum diameter of the device is an orifice of the device, wherein the second diverging section has a plurality of holes on its surface beyond the orifice in order to achieve suction.

2. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein conical angle of the first tapering section is greater than 0° and at most 10°, preferably at most 5°.

3. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein conical angle of the second diverging section is greater than 0° and at most 10°, preferably at most 4°.

4. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein the holes are of circular shape.

5. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein the holes are inclined in the direction of the flow of the fluid.

6. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein the holes have diameter that is less than half the diameter of the orifice section.

7. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein the holes are made at the orifice.

8. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 1, wherein the holes are made on a portion of the second diverging section with diameter greater than the diameter of the orifice and less than 1.5 times the diameter of the orifice.

9. (Currently Amended) A double-cone device of continuous geometry for creating a pressure difference in a fluid flowing through the device, the device comprising:

- a. a first tapering section having an interior space of hollow frustoconical shape;
- b. a second porous diverging section having an interior space of hollow frustoconical shape, the first tapering section and the second porous diverging section meeting at a neck at the smaller diameter end of the interior space of the first tapering section, the second porous diverging section extending from the neck, to achieve suction, the second porous diverging section having holes with sizes in the range of 50 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$  to provide relatively silent suction of the fluid without reducing the suction capacity; and
- c. a third diverging section having an interior space of hollow frustoconical shape, extending from the larger diameter end of the interior space of the second porous section.

10. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein conical angle of the first tapering section is greater than  $0^\circ$  and at most  $10^\circ$ .

11. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein conical angle of the third diverging section is greater than  $0^\circ$  and at most  $10^\circ$ .

12. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein the second porous diverging section has an end with a larger diameter, the larger diameter being greater than a diameter of the smaller diameter end of the first tapering section and less than 1.5 times the diameter of the smaller diameter end of the first tapering section.

13. (Withdrawn) A double-cone device for creating a pressure difference in a fluid flowing through the device, the device comprising:

- a. a first tapering section of essentially hollow frustoconical shape;
- b. a second diverging section of essentially hollow frustoconical shape; and
- c. an insert section having a central hollow frustoconical portion, the hollow portion having the smaller diameter end matched to the smaller diameter end of the first tapering section and the larger diameter end matched to the smaller diameter end of the second diverging

section, the insert extending from the smaller diameter end of first tapering section to the beginning of the second diverging section, wherein the insert section has a plurality of radial holes on the central hollow portion to facilitate suction.

14. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 13, wherein conical angle of the first tapering section is greater than 0° and at most 10°.

15. (Withdrawn) The device according to claim 13, wherein conical angle of the second diverging section is greater than 0° and at most 10°, preferably at most 2°.

16. (New) The device according to claim 9, wherein the continuous geometry of the device is configured to cause the flow profiles of the fluid in the neck, in the second porous diverging section, and in the third diverging section to remain in contact with the wall of the neck, with the wall of the second porous diverging section, and with the wall of the third diverging section.

17. (New) The device according to claim 9, wherein the continuous geometry of the device is configured to reduce noise levels during operation of the device.